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Patent Number	6945981
Issue Date	9/20/2005
Application Number	09/879319
Filing Date	6/11/2001
First Named Inventor	Donofrio et al.
Attorney Docket Number	END0745USA

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Typed or
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Date March 18, 2009	Telephone 513-337-3295
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NOTE: Signatures of all the inventors or assignees of record of the entire interest or their representative(s) are required. Submit multiple forms if more than one signature is required, see below*.

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STATEMENT UNDER 37 CFR 3.73(b)

Applicant/Patent Owner: William T. Donofrio et al.

Application No./Patent No.: 6,945,981 Filed/Issue Date: 09/20/2005

Entitled: FINGER OPERATED SWITCH FOR CONTROLLING A SURGICAL HANDPIECE

ETHICON ENDO-SURGERY, INC. , a Corporation
(Name of Assignee) (Type of Assignee, e.g., corporation, partnership, university, government agency, etc.)

states that it is:

1. the assignee of the entire right, title, and interest; or
2. an assignee of less than the entire right, title and interest
(The extent (by percentage) of its ownership interest is _____ %)

in the patent application/patent identified above by virtue of either:

- A. An assignment from the inventor(s) of the patent application/patent identified above. The assignment was recorded in the United States Patent and Trademark Office at Reel 015611 , Frame 0915 , or for which a copy therefore is attached.

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- B. A chain of title from the inventor(s), of the patent application/patent identified above, to the current assignee as follows:

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[NOTE: A separate copy (i.e., a true copy of the original assignment document(s)) must be submitted to Assignment Division in accordance with 37 CFR Part 3, to record the assignment in the records of the USPTO. See MPEP 302.08]

The undersigned (whose title is supplied below) is authorized to act on behalf of the assignee.

SignatureMarch 18 2009
Date

Verne E. Kreger, Jr.

513-337-3295
Telephone Number

Printed or Typed Name

Vice President Patent Law, Ethicon Endo-Surgery, Inc.

Title

This collection of information is required by 37 CFR 3.73(b). The information is required to obtain or retain a benefit by the public which is to file (and by the USPTO to process) an application. Confidentiality is governed by 35 U.S.C. 122 and 37 CFR 1.11 and 1.14. This collection is estimated to take 12 minutes to complete, including gathering, preparing, and submitting the completed application form to the USPTO. Time will vary depending upon the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you require to complete this form and/or suggestions for reducing this burden, should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, U.S. Department of Commerce, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450. DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. SEND TO: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.

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